

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Support for the claim amendments may be found in the specification, for example, on page 8 lines 19-21, page 9 lines 8-15, page 11 lines 6-14, page 12 lines 7-12 and FIGS. 2, 3 and 4, as originally filed. Thus, no new matter has been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-9, 12-16 and 19-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Fuller '279 and Official Notice has been obviated in part by appropriate amendment, is respectfully traversed in part, and should be withdrawn.

Fuller concerns a video distribution system (Title). Official Notice is taken by the Office that placing a decoder means in a room terminal was known in the art at the time of the application.

Claim 1 provides a control server configured to present a particular one of the one or more compressed data streams received from a drive server on a particular one of a plurality of busses. Despite the assertion in the Office Action, the text in column 9, lines 55-65 of Fuller is silent regarding a control

server 206 (alleged claims control server) both (i) receiving compressed data stream from a video server 202 (alleged claimed drive server) and (ii) presenting a particular one of the compressed data streams on a particular one bus of a local video distribution network 204 (alleged claimed busses):

Both the video server 202 and the systems control computer 206 are connected to a plurality of room terminals 208, and a plurality of in-room TVs 210, by the video distribution network 204. Typically, the network 204 is a radio frequency (RF) network, in which data is transmitted in a RF format to the room terminal 208 via the network 204. Data also could be transmitted via video distribution network 204 in a digital format. Moreover, it is possible that the network 204 could be constructed using fiber optical cable. Often, the video distribution network 204 is configured in a trunk/branch structure. In smaller establishments, numerous branches of coaxial cable connect to a single trunk, while larger hospitality establishments may have a plurality of trunks, each of which may be associated with a particular floor of the establishment, each with a plurality of branches. (C9:54-C10:1)

In contrast, FIG. 2 of Fuller shows that the video server 202 (alleged claimed drive server) places the video signals directly on the distribution network 204 (alleged claimed busses). Therefore, Fuller and Official Notice, alone or in combination, do not appear to teach or suggest a control server configured to present a particular one of the one or more compressed data streams received from a drive server on a particular one of a plurality of busses as presently claimed. Claims 12 and 14 provide language similar to claim 1.

Claim 1 further provides one or more navigation software modules executable on the control server, each of the navigation

software modules being configured to (i) generate one or more control signals that program a respective one of the one or more decoder devices in response to one or more user options entered at the respective decoder device. Despite the assertion in the Office Action, the text in column 15, lines 24-35 of Fuller is silent regarding software generating commands that program decoders:

Upon receipt of a particular command from the systems control computer 206, the video server 202 begins downloading the selected programming from the appropriate disk drives (not shown) to a buffer (not shown) within the decoder circuit boards (FIG. 6). In the preferred embodiment, the decoder circuit boards (FIG. 6) are internal to the video server 202; but they can comprise a separate unit. In addition, the decoder circuit boards (FIG. 6) convert the data from MPEG format to NTSC format. Finally, the data is converted from digital signals to RF signals. These RF signals are then transmitted from the video server 202 to the frequency modulators 402, which modulate the signals to the appropriate frequency channel.

The above text teaches that the computer 206 (alleged claimed control server) commands the video server 202 (alleged claimed drive server) to begin downloading a requested content from appropriate disk drives to decoder circuit boards. In contrast, Fuller is silent regarding the computer 206 (alleged claimed control server) generating one or more control signals that program a respective one of the one or more decoder devices in response to one or more user options entered at the respective decoder device as presently claimed. Claim 14 provides similar language as claim 1.

Claim 1 further provides that the navigation software modules are also configured to (ii) parse a respective one of the one or more compressed data streams. In contrast, Fuller appears to be silent regarding any software in the computer 206 (alleged claimed control server) parsing any compressed data streams as presently claimed. Claim 14 provides language similar to claim 1. As such, claims 1 and 14 are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 12 further provides one or more decoder control circuits within the control server, each of the decoder control circuits being configured to control a respective one of the navigation software modules for programming of a respective one of the decoder devices. In contrast, Fuller is silent regarding any control circuit in the computer 206 (alleged claimed control server) configured to control a respective one of the unidentified navigation software modules for programming of a respective one of the decoder devices as presently claimed. As such, claim 12 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 21 provides that one or more user options comprise a fast forward request. Despite the assertion in the Office Action, the text in column 15, lines 35-65 of Fuller are silent regarding a fast forward request:

As previously stated, the system as described herein allows customers to interact with the programs stored in the

video server 202. For example, customers can use the remote control unit 212 to implement a "bookmark" application. This application allows customers to stop the transmission of a selected video program and begin watching the program from the exact same point at a later time, until the program is erased from the video server 202 by the reception of new programming via the system 100. However, time limit parameters for the "bookmark" application can be programmed into the systems control computer 206; for example, bookmarks could be erased after 24 hours. Likewise, when a customer checks out of the hospitality establishment, the systems control computer 206 is notified of the status change by the PMS 406. In response to the notification, the systems control computer 206 could command the video server 202 to erase that customer's bookmark.

Accordingly, this application represents an advancement in the art over video server systems that only allow a customer to "pause" the program for short periods of time. The room terminal 208 transmits the signal for the bookmark application via the video distribution network 204 to the systems control computer 206. The systems control computer 206 receives the command and stores the room number, billing information, channel information, and other vital information in its memory. The computer 206 also transmits commands, via the LAN 202, to the video server 202 to cease transmission of the program and to mark in its memory the stopping place. The customer can reactivate transmission of the programming with the remote control unit 212. The room terminal 208 transmits the command to the systems control computer 206 via the video distribution network 204. The systems control computer 206 receives the transmission and forwards the appropriate data to the video server 202 via the LAN 404 to reactivate transmission of the program from the location of the bookmark. (C15:35-C16:6)

The cited text of Fuller only teaches a pause capability. The rest of Fuller appears to be silent regarding a fast forward request. Therefore, Fuller and Official Notice, alone or in combination, do not appear to teach or suggest that one or more user options comprise a fast forward request as presently claimed. Claim 25 provides language similar to claim 21. As such, claims 21 and 25

are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 22 provides that at least one decoder device comprises a plurality of decoding elements capable of decoding a plurality of video standards, respectively. In contrast, Fuller appears to be silent regarding a plurality of decoding elements capable of decoding a plurality of video standards, respectively, as presently claimed. As such, claim 22 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 23 provides a supplemental decoder coupled to the at least one decoder device through a serial interface to receive the at least one compressed data stream through the serial interface. Despite the assertion in the Office Action, the graphics engines 408 of Fuller (i) are not decoders, (ii) are not coupled to the decoders in the video server 202 and (iii) do not receive at least one compressed data stream from the decoders in the video server 202. Furthermore, Fuller is silent regarding the decoders in the video server 202 (alleged claimed decoder device) presenting a compressed data stream on a serial bus. In contrast, column 13, lines 10-13 of Fuller states that the video server 202 presented decoded data. Therefore, Fuller and Official Notice, alone or in combination, do not appear to teach or suggest a supplemental decoder coupled to the at least one decoder device through a serial interface to receive the at least one compressed

data stream through the serial interface as presently claimed. As such, claim 23 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 24 provides that the supplemental decoder comprises (i) a decoder circuit and (ii) a state machine configured to control a plurality of read operations and plurality of write operations sent to the decoder circuit. Despite the assertion in the Office Action, the text in column 14, lines 11-50 of Fuller is silent regarding the graphics engines 408 (alleged claimed supplemental decoder) having both (i) a decoder circuit and (ii) a state machine. As such, claim 24 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 13, 15, 16 and 21-25 depend from independent claims 1, 12 and 14, which are now believed to be allowable. As such, the dependent claims are fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

New claims 26-28 depend from claims 12 and 14, which are now believed to be allowable. As such, the new claims are fully patentable over the cited reference and should be allowed.

COMPLETENESS OF THE OFFICE ACTION

Aside from a notice of allowance, Applicant's representative respectfully requests any further action on the merits be presented as a non-final action. 37 CFR §1.104(b) states

that the Office Action will be complete as to all matters. However, no arguments were presented in the Office Action concerning claim 22 or several elements in independent claims 12 and 14.

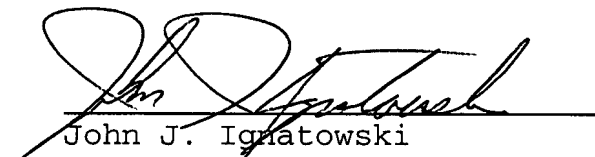
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicant's representative at 586-498-0670 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm Eastern time should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

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c/o Henry Groth
LSI Logic Corporation

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